



Leopoldo "Leo" Solis, Jr.

July 6, 1929 - December 18, 2023

Leopoldo Solis Jr. passed away Dec. 18 in Austin, Texas surrounded by his family. An eighth generation Texan, Mr. Solis was born in Mercedes on July 6, 1929 to Manuela and Leopoldo Solis.

A veteran of the Korean War, Mr. Solis served in the Air Force from 1949 to 1952. He was a corporal with the 605 Tactical Control Squadron. Following his honorable discharge, Mr. Solis went on to pursue his education. He obtained Bachelor of Science in Physical Education and Master of Education degrees, both from the University of North Texas. Throughout his life, he remained a devoted "Mean Green" fan, following his beloved football team to both local and away games.

Mr. Solis spent most of his career with the Harlingen Independent School District, working as a football, basketball and track coach at Coakley Jr. High and junior varsity football and track coach at Harlingen High School. In 1997, he was inducted into the City of

Palms Hall of Honor

for his 30-plus years in the coaching and teaching profession and for his positive impact on his players and students.

In 1955, a blind date led to his marrying the love of his life, Corina Serna Solis. The couple had two children, Leopoldo Solis III and Virginia Solis Zuiker. They spent many summers traveling in

their RV to visit friends and family throughout the U.S.

The Solises entered a new phase of their lives when they became grandparents. They rarely missed an important event in the lives of their four granddaughters. Mr. Solis would live long enough to enjoy the company of his seven great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Corina Serna Solis; parents, Manuela and Leopoldo Solis; sisters, Catalina and Argentina Solis and Alicia Solis Diaz; and brother, Noel Solis.

Mr. Solis leaves behind two children, Leopoldo Solis III (Olivia) and Virginia Solis Zuiker (Mark);

four granddaughters, Laura Solis Zambrano (Michael), Christina Solis Camacho (Alex), Caroline

Carmichael Solis (Jeffrey Stein); and Eryn Nicole Zuiker; and seven great grandchildren,

Gabriel, Daniel and Samuel Zambrano; Liliana and Christian Solis Camacho; and Ilana and

Talia Stein Solis.

He is also survived by two sisters, Mitzi Cestero and Karen Martinez, and two brothers, David

(Mary Helen) and Carlos (Bea) Solis.

Funeral services are being handled by Rudy Garza Funeral Home. Visitation is Thursday, Dec.

28 from 2 to 9 p.m., with a prayer service from 6 to 7 p.m. The funeral service will be at El Buen

Samaritano Methodist Church, the church his mother helped found, on Friday, Dec. 29 at 10

a.m., followed by burial at Restlawn Cemetery.

Pallbearers include Michael Zambrano, Alex Camacho, Jeffrey Stein, A.J. Cestero, David

Marchese and Noel Solis Jr. Honorary pallbearer is Gabriel Zambrano.

Cemetery Details

Restlawn Memorial Park

14166 U.S. 83 Business
La Feria, TX 78559
(956) 797-2322

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **28**. 2:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Rudy Garza Funeral Home - Harlingen
1702 E Harrison Ave
Harlingen, TX 78550
(956) 425-8200
rgfhtx@aol.com
<https://www.rudygarzafunerals.com>

Prayer Service

DEC **28**. 6:00 PM (CT)

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1702 E Harrison Ave
Harlingen, TX 78550
(956) 425-8200
rgfhtx@aol.com
<https://www.rudygarzafunerals.com>

Funeral Service

DEC **29**. 10:00 AM (CT)

El Buen Samaritano United Methodist Church
806 W. Grant Ave.
Harlingen, TX 78550

Tribute Wall

RD

“ I felt that your sister, my mom Alicia, was with me and smiling every time I visited you, whether at your house or in the hospital. Melissa and you shared a birthday with A.J. and when we celebrated, we thought of you. We will continue to think of you, and hope you smile at us, on the next shared birthday.



Rudy & Melissa Diaz - December 28, 2023 at 08:52 PM

MC

“ To all of Leo Solis , Jr.'s family , let's remember the beautiful memories that he left us and thank God for the long life He granted him ... 94 years !
We are already missing you dad , granddad , brother , great granddad , and uncle .
So till we meet again REST in PEACE !

Mitzi Solis Cestero - December 27, 2023 at 10:40 AM

MC

“ To the entire Solis family and their families , we know that your dad , dad in law , grandpa , greatgrand dad , brother , uncle is no longer in pain but resting in the arms of our Lord and Savior !!
Yes , we're missing him already but we have mostly great memories of him .
So , Leo , till we see you again , Rest in Peace !
Love you , Mitzi

Mitzi Solis Cestero - December 26, 2023 at 05:30 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Leopoldo "Leo" Solis, Jr..*



December 26, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ *3 files added to the album Leo Solis Jr.*



Olivia - December 22, 2023 at 05:05 PM